

ELD 97

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Kindel 25X1A

EVALUATION 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1C

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 30 July 1953

REFERENCES 25X1C

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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1. Between 7:15 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. on 3 July 1953, a field exercise was observed in the Kindel training area. At 7:15 a.m., 40 T-34 tanks left the cantonment just south of Highway No 84 and drove across the highway toward northwest. An individual tank headed the column and was followed by a double file of other tanks about 30 meters apart. About 500 meters north of Highway No 84, the tanks changed into line and formed a semi-circle around the tip of a forest. Thirty-eight JS tanks which followed in file also formed a line 40 to 60 meters behind the T-34 tanks. As the tanks stopped, infantry advanced from between the tanks and attacked the forest. Five or 6 soldiers were in each space between two tanks. Source believed that the soldiers had previously been in the terrain. When, some time later, about 80 soldiers left the objective with hands up, the field exercise was completed. One soldier of each tank crew and some soldiers of the attacking infantry participated in the following critique. The tanks then returned to their parking lot.

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2. At 4:45 p.m. on 10 July, 10 boxcars with about 300 engineer troops and 23 flatcars with wooden bridge construction material were loaded at the Mechterstedt railroad station. No trucks were seen.²

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25X1A 1. Comment. On the whole, the information indicates no change in the training activities or the occupation at the Kindel troop training grounds.

25X1A 2. Comment. On 4 July 1953, shipments of engineer units also left Kindel. On 5 July 1953, a troop train with an engineer unit probably coming from Dessau/Aken passed through Bernburg toward Halle. observed with the two trains indicated that elements of the 67th Engr Bn (US) of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div were loaded. Thus, it is believed that individual companies of the battalion rotated between Dessau/Aken and Kindel.

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conclusion, however, cannot yet be drawn whether the troop train of 10 July 1953 in the present report also belonged to the above battalion or to the unidentified engineer battalion of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps.

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